

YORK COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & LIFE SAFETY / DIVISION OF FIRE AND RESCUE

JOB TITLE: FIREFIGHTER

GENERAL STATEMENT OF JOB

Responsible for performing skilled and specialized technical emergency response work in firefighting, emergency medical services, rescue, and hazardous materials incidents. Performs firefighting, provides pre-hospital emergency medical care and transportation of the sick and injured, rescue work, fire and injury prevention responsibilities, public education and community services, contains hazardous materials and performs cleanup of same, and performs emergency management and disaster response duties. Trains in the methods and techniques of emergency response operations and in the use of equipment and apparatus. Employee is exposed to the normal hazards of emergency fire and rescue work, including risk of exposure to hazardous materials and infectious diseases. Work is performed under general supervision of a Lieutenant or Captain.

JOB LOCATION/WORKING CONDITIONS

Works wherever emergencies occur both indoors and outdoors; is exposed to a variety of hot and cold temperatures and may be, at times, exposed to fire, smoke, infectious diseases, hazardous chemicals, and other dangerous situations; may be required to walk, climb, crawl, bend, pull, push, or lift and balance on less than ideal terrain; is exposed to wide variety of noise levels, which at times can be quite high, particularly when multiple sirens are sounding; training is carried out at both indoor and outdoor training locations.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

Responds to incidents requiring firefighting, pre-hospital emergency medical care and transportation of the sick and injured, rescues, fire and injury prevention, public education and community services, hazardous materials containment or cleanup, and emergency management/disaster response; may make initial determination of necessary personnel, equipment and suppression or containment tactics until relieved by superior officer; in the absence of more qualified emergency medical personnel may evaluate a victim's condition and determine the most expedient and effective course of action to prevent death, minimize disability, and relieve pain and suffering.

Advances hose lines into fire area; selects hose nozzle, depending on type of fire; lays and connects hoses; holds nozzle and directs stream of water onto fire; raises and climbs ladders; creates openings in buildings for ventilation or entrance using various hand and power tools; enters premises for fire fighting, rescue, and salvage operations; uses chemical extinguishers, bars, hooks, lines and other equipment.

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Provides immediate care to the ill or injured appropriate for the individual's level of emergency medical training and certification; assesses the scene for and manages hazards to response personnel, patients, and bystanders; assesses the presence, nature, and extent of illness or injury, establishes priority for required pre-hospital emergency medical care; provides treatment in accordance with established protocols and medical control direction; and continues that treatment while transporting to the appropriate medical facility.

Identifies hazardous materials and type of container or carrier at spill scene; uses various booms and barriers to contain spills and mitigate runoff; performs fire suppression activities, as necessary; assists in direction of evacuation operations, as necessary.

Performs salvage operations such as placing salvage covers, sweeping water, removing debris and placing smoke ejectors.

Inspects assigned emergency apparatus and equipment at the beginning of each shift and as necessary after emergencies; cleans and sanitizes emergency medical equipment daily as required; completes logs and forms while checking out equipment; ensures that all assigned emergency apparatus are in proper working order, and are stocked with required quantities of equipment and supplies; performs routine operational inspections and maintenance of assigned apparatus and equipment; makes minor repairs and adjustments, but reports other than minor defects for specialized attention.

Maintains clear and concise communications with other emergency response personnel, hospital personnel, and the Emergency Communications Center utilizing two-way radios, telephones, cellular telephones, or face to face communications as available, appropriate, and most effective; establishes rapport with family members of patients or bystanders.

Prepares reports of emergency incidents and patient care; thoroughly documents all aspects of emergency incident responses including response information, scene assessments, patient assessments, observations, actions taken, treatments performed, orders obtained, results/consequences of actions, and responses to treatments; reports and documents any unusual occurrences or deviations from standard practice, protocol, or operating procedures as required; and, prepares and maintains activity records, checklists, logs and reports as required.

Participates in a continuous training program to improve competence in fire suppression techniques, rescue techniques, hazardous materials awareness/identification/containment and pre-hospital emergency medical care knowledge, skills, and abilities; participates in a continuous training program to improve apparatus operation skills and abilities; maintains knowledge of new or modified operational protocols and procedures; studies building layouts and utility controls, and hydrant locations, etc.; studies County streets, regional road patterns and traffic networks to ensure minimum difficulty or delay in getting to an emergency scene, or from the scene to the appropriate medical facility.

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Drives emergency apparatus; operates pumps, aerial ladders and auxiliary fire apparatus; Acts as Attendant-In-Charge in the absence of a released advanced life support provider; Acts as an Attendant, or Operator of an Advanced Life Support Medic Unit as appropriate for the individual's emergency medical training and certification;

Provides pertinent information to oncoming emergency personnel when relieved.

ADDITIONAL JOB FUNCTIONS

Assists with public information presentations on fire safety, injury prevention, available services and what to do in case of emergency;

Assists with pre-fire planning and company level fire inspections of selected occupancies.

Performs daily maintenance activities in and around the fire station including dusting, floor maintenance, clean up of apparatus, equipment, hose, and tools and appliances.

Performs other related work as required.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

Graduation from high school or GED; supplemented by fire fighting and emergency medical technician training courses; or any equivalent combination of education and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Ability to acquire certification by the Commonwealth of Virginia as a Firefighter II, Emergency Medical Technician-Basic, Hazardous Materials Operations, and Emergency Vehicles Operator - S3, Rope Rescue 1, Mayday! Firefighter Down!, Terrorism Awareness, and Vehicle Extrication. Ability to be successfully complete the Tidewater Regional Fire Academy. Ability to acquire Professional Rescuer certification by the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association Equivalent. Ability to successfully complete the department's Driver Pump Operator program. Possession and maintenance of a valid Virginia Drivers License with an acceptable driving record. Completion of other training, education or possession of other certificates as required by the Fire Chief.

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL STANDARDS REQUIRED TO PERFORM ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

Physical Requirements: Must meet NFPA 1582 Standards. Must be physically able to operate a variety of machinery and equipment including driving fire and rescue apparatus, and operating

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such fire fighting and rescue equipment as pumps, ladders, aerial platforms, hoses, nozzles and appliances, hand tools, gasoline powered tools, hydraulic and pneumatic tools, self contained breathing apparatus, two-way radios, etc.; Must be able to operate emergency medical equipment including radio communications systems between the ambulance and the physician at the hospital emergency department, cardiac monitor/defibrillator/pacers, medications, intravenous fluid administration systems, oxygen powered cardiopulmonary resuscitation devices, oxygen administration equipment, airway management equipment, wound care and fracture immobilization equipment, ambulance cots, stretchers, backboards, stair chairs and other patient movement equipment; Must be able to operate hazardous materials management equipment and supplies, including radiological monitoring equipment. Must be able to lift and push and pull objects weighing between 25-165 pounds, and work with full gear that easily weighs 55 pounds. Physical demand requirements are those for Very Heavy Work.

Data Conception: Requires the ability to compare and/or judge the readily observable, functional, structural or compositional characteristics (whether similar or divergent from obvious standards) of data, people or things.

Interpersonal Communications: Requires the ability of speaking and/or signaling people to convey or exchange information. Includes receiving instructions, assignments or directions from superiors.

Language Ability: Requires the ability to read textbooks, protocol books, manuals, maps, check sheets, reports, correspondence, charts, forms, etc. Requires the ability to prepare logs, reports, inventory check sheets, etc., using prescribed formats.

Intelligence: Requires the ability to apply principles of rational systems to solve practical problems and deal with a variety of known and unknown variables in situations where only limited standardization exists; to interpret a variety of instructions furnished in written, oral, diagrammatic, or schedule form.

Verbal Aptitude: Requires the ability to record and deliver information, to explain procedures, to follow oral and written instructions. Must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently in a variety of technical or professional languages including emergency response codes, and fire, rescue, hazardous materials, medical, and legal terminology.

Numerical Aptitude: Requires the ability to utilize mathematical formulas; to add and subtract; multiply and divide; utilize decimals and percentages; understand and apply the theories of algebra and geometry.

Form/Spatial Aptitude: Requires the ability to inspect items for proper length, width and shape.

Motor Coordination: Requires the ability to coordinate hands and eyes rapidly and accurately in using office equipment/tools/supplies, firefighting equipment/tools, rescue equipment/tools,

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hazardous materials response equipment/tools/supplies, emergency communications equipment and emergency medical equipment/tools/supplies.

Manual Dexterity: Requires the ability to handle a variety of items such as office equipment/tools/supplies, firefighting equipment/tools, rescue equipment/tools, hazardous materials response equipment/tools/supplies, emergency communications equipment and emergency medical equipment/tools/supplies. Must have levels of eye/hand/foot coordination.

Color Discrimination: Requires the ability to differentiate between colors and shades of color.

Interpersonal Temperament: Requires the ability to deal with people beyond giving and receiving instructions. Must be adaptable to performing under stress and when confronted with emergency situations.

Physical Communication: Requires the ability to talk and hear.

Prepared by: _____

Date: _____

Approval: _____